sities therein. These aims were most easily realized in the case of the Lithuanians, ample material being provided for their anti-German past by their struggle against the Teutonic Knights and above all by the Battle of Tannenberg (1410) when Lithuanians and Russians had fought on the same side.

In Latvia, Soviet authorities used for their own purposes the legend of the national hero, Lachplesis, fighting against the 'Black Knight'. According to the war-time interpretation of the legend, Lachplesis was a kind of guerilla leader who defeated the Germans; in the post-war period he appeared as the personification of the victorious Soviet power asserting itself against the forces of darkness and reaction. In Estonia, the Soviet régime made similar use of Kalev, the hero of the national epic, *Kalevipoeg*, whom Soviet propaganda represented as the champion of Russian-Estonian co-operation. This interpretation is based on a reference in the epic to a bridge which Kalev began to build across the Lake Peipus.

Soviet policy in the Baltic States can be characterized not only by the familiar official slogan, 'National in form, socialist in content', but also by the formula 'Baltic in form, Russian in essence'. Particularly since 1945 the Soviet régime has treated the Baltic States not only as Soviet provinces but also as part of the Russian living space. The influx of Russians into the Baltic Republics is important both in quantity and in quality. The Soviet Government has not been so clumsy as to appoint Russians to such posts as those of the Prime Ministers of the Baltic Republics or of the chairmen of the local Supreme Soviets. Even the first party secretaries are natives of the countries concerned. By a coincidence, however, their deputies are Russians in all three republics and there are many more Russians in responsible and influential party positions. Moscow also sent administrators, economic experts and skilled workers. On the other hand, the Baltic communists were unable to acquire any important posts in Moscow. After the annexation of the Baltic Republics the leaders of the Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian communists were not admitted into the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party, but became only alternate members of that body.

The Russians not only occupied important key positions in the Baltic Republics as individuals but also assumed the status of a second State-nation in each. Russian was introduced as a State language on the same footing as Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian, and in the new coats of arms of the three Soviet Republics the motto, 'Workers of the World Unite', appeared in both the local and the Russian languages.